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TEXT

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DIA FOR IR BRANCH; USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12356: DECL: 2-10-89

TAGS: PREL, PINS, BL, FR, GE

SUBJECT: MORE ON THE KLAUS ALTMAN BARBIE EXPULSION

REF: LA FAZ 755

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE AMBASSADOR AND THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR, RAYMOND CESAIRE, HAVE SHED MORE LIGHT ON THE EXPULSION OF NAZI WAR CRIMINAL KLAUS BARBIE (ALIAS KLAUS ALTMAN) FROM BOLIVIA ON FEBRUARY 4. (REFTEL) 3. TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPULSION, FOUR OR FIVE FRENCH AUTHORITIES ARRIVED IN LA PAZ. FOLLOWING ALMOST A WEEK'S NEGOTIATION BETWEEN FRENCH EMBASSY OFFICIALS AND GOB MEMBERS, THESE AGENTS ESCORTED BARBIE VIA BOLIVIAN AIR TRANSPORT (TAB) TO THE INTERMEDIATE DESTINATION OF FRENCH GUIANA WHENCE HE WAS FLOWN BY A FRENCH PLANE TO FRANCE.

NAZIWAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT 2000

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4. CESAIRE COMMENTED TO THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE PREVIOUS

THE EXPULSION OF ITALIAN NARCOTERRORIST, PIERLUIGI PAGLIAI, ON OCTOBER 10 HAD BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN PAVING THE WAY FOR A SMOOTH PROCESS WITH BARBIE. SPEAKING SYMPATHETICALLY OF THE WEST GERMAN ROLE IN THIS CASE, CESAIRE SAID THAT HE WAS SURE THAT IF FRANCE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO TAKE BARBIE, THE WEST GERMANS WOULD HAVE DONE SO.

- 5. THERE IS SOME EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT RUMORS CIRCULATING THAT CONTACTS WERE MADE BETWEEN MEMBERS OF PRESIDENT HERNAN SILES ZUAZO'S NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT OF THE LEFT (MNRI) PARTY AND THE FRENCH AND THAT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN PAYMENTS MADE TO THOSE MEMBERS BY THE FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY (NOT THE GOF) FOR EXPEDITING BARBIE'S RETURN TO FRANCE. CERTAINLY IT MUST HAVE BEEN UPPERMOST IN THE MINDS OF GOB OFFICIALS THAT DECISIVE ACTION COULD RESULT IN INCREASED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM FRANCE FOR THE GOB. IN FACT, LA PAZ NEWSPAPER HEADLINES OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FROM PARIS HAVE INDICATED THAT THE BARBIE EXPULSION WILL IMPROVE BOLIVIAN/FRENCH RELATIONS AND FRENCH ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.
- 6. ON FEBRUARY 9 THE FOREIGN MINISTRY RELEASED THE TEXT OF A NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO SILES FROM FRENCH PRESIDENT FRANCOIS MITTERAND IN WHICH MITTERCNAND EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO MEET SILES AT SOME POINT. DRAFTED BY MARY JEANNE REID MARTZ. CORR NNNN

NNDD